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US Army Corps of Engineers' Radiologically Contaminated Debris Removal Mission

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Mid-America Chapter
Health Physics Society
October 6, 2006



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Outline of Topics

- USACE organization
- USACE experience and capabilities
- National Response Plan
- USACE role in the NRP
 - Emergency Support Functions #3 & #10
 - Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex
- Useful links





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USACE Organization

- Major Army command (MACOM)
- Organized geographically into 8 Divisions in the US and 41 Districts worldwide
- USACE missions
 - Water resources - Homeland security
 - Environment - Warfighting
 - Infrastructure
- Support/manage numerous environmental programs
 - e.g., EPA-Superfund, BRAC, FUSRAP, FUDS



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USACE Experience and Capabilities

- Most work performed IAW CERCLA and its implementing regulation the NCP
- Often as Lead Federal Agency
 - Responding to releases at DOD and FUSRAP sites
- USACE environmental restoration work averages > \$1 billion/yr



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USACE Experience and Capabilities

- Generate large volumes of LARV
- Common radionuclides:
 - U, Ra, Th, 11e.(1
 - Physical form:
 - soil or building debris

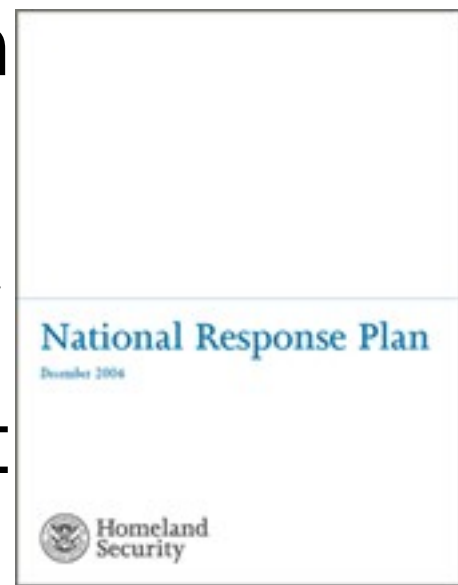




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National Response Plan

- An all-discipline, all-hazards plan that establishes a single, comprehensive framework for domestic incident management (HSPD-5)
- Forms the basis for how the federal government coordinates with others





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National Response Plan

- Last updated May 25, 2006
- Supersedes INRP, FRP, CONPLAN, and FRERP
- Consists of the following components:
 - Base Plan
 - Appendices
 - Emergency Support Function (ESF) Annexes
 - Support Annexes
 - Incident Annexes



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USACE- Coordinator ESF #3

- Public Works and Engineering
 - Technical advice and evaluations
 - Engineering services
 - Construction management and inspection
 - Emergency contracting support for life-saving and life sustaining services
 - potable water, ice, emergency power, etc
 - Repair of wastewater and solid waste facilities
 - Real estate support
 - Temporary housing
 - Debris removal from public property



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Deployable Tactical Operation Systems

- Deployable emergency response equipment
 - Office space for crisis response
 - Communications for mission support and with other federal and state government agencies
- District, national and international capabilities
 - 6 Rapid Response Vehicles
 - 2 Emergency Tactical Operations Centers



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Rapid Response Vehicle

- Purpose

- Accommodate 7 person staff for regional response throughout CONUS within 18 hours

- Components

Network server

GIS

GPS equipment Laptops

Office software

TV / VCR

Digital cameras

Cell phone

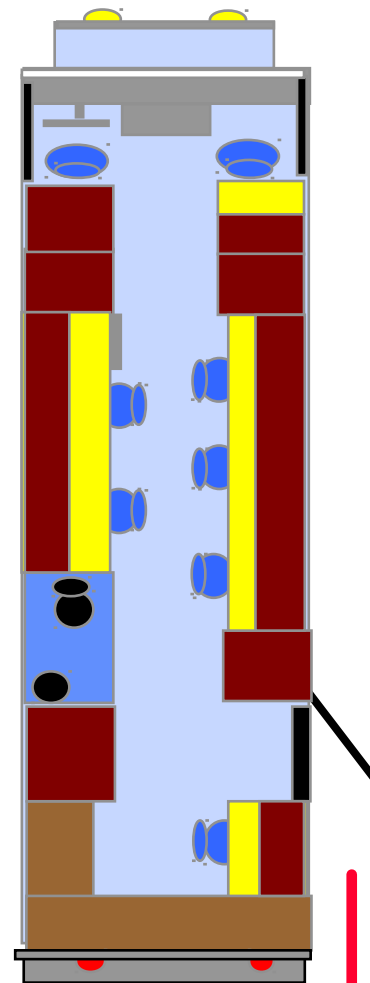
Drafting software

HF, VHF & CB radios

Mapping software

Satellite Com

Phone & intercom system

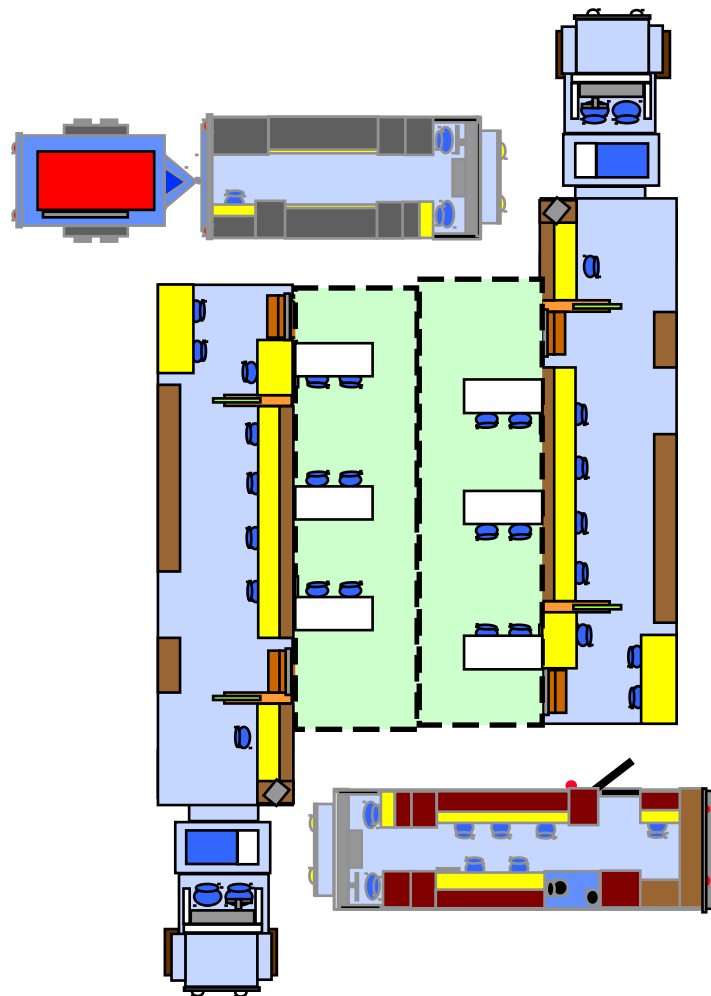




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Emergency Tactical Operations Center

- Purpose
 - 4 vehicles supporting 38 person staff for CONUS response within 36 hours
- Components
 - Same as RRV plus self-contained power (40 KW generator)



Tactical Operations Center



ETOC



Pull Vehicle



40KVA Generator



Satcom



ESV



Rapid Response Vehicle



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USACE – ESF #3

- Includes non-contaminated and contaminated debris
- Scope of actions may include:
 - Waste sampling - Transportation
 - Classification - Demolition
 - Treatment - Disposal
 - Packaging
- Coordinate with ESF #10 – Oil and Hazardous Materials Response



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USACE Role– ESF #10

- USEPA is Coordinating Agency
- USACE is a Support Agency
- Intended to cover response to accidental or intentional releases
 - Includes CRB substances considered WMD



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Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex



- DHS has overall responsibility
- Provides protocols for coordinating Federal capabilities (such as FRMAC)
- “A coordinating agency may require support from a cooperating agency that has significant cleanup/recovery experience and capabilities (e.g., EPA, USACE) for a long-term cleanup.” •



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Nuclear/Radiological Incident Annex



- Directs response/recovery actions as they relate to ESF #3, including contaminated debris management
- For RDD/IND incidents, provides response and cleanup support
- As requested, USACE could perform any or all of the following:
 - Radiological survey functions
 - Gross decontamination
 - Site characterization
 - Contaminated water management
 - Site remediation





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Current USACE Activities

- 2004 to Present
 - USACE continues to develop internal guidance to formalize its plans for carrying out its expanded ESF #3 responsibilities
 - USACE is engaged in discussions with EPA to address the overlap of activities associated with ESF #3 (debris management) and #10 (hazardous materials management)
 - Especially during an RDD/IND event
 - Draft MOU with EPA to define USACE support role to EPA during long term remediation of an RDD/IND event



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Useful Links

- USACE HP website
 - http://www.environmental.usace.army.mil/tech_hp.htm
- National Response Plan
 - http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/editorial/editorial_0566.xml
- USACE Office of Homeland Security
 - <http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwhs/>